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 Facebook: St. Gabriel Parish, Auburn, Michigan
 MyParish App: St. Gabriel Parish, Auburn, Michigan

PASTOR

Rev. Thomas E. Sutton tsutton@auburnac.org

PARISH STAFF

Office Administrator..... parishoffice@auburnac.org
 Bookkeeper
 Janet Woronoff..... jworonoff@auburnac.org
 Director of Religious Education.....662-4335
 Sandy DesJardins sdesjardins@auburnac.org
 Music Director
 Sue LeVasseur.....slevasseur@auburnac.org
 Youth Ministry
 Stephanie Schacher..... sschacher@auburnac.org

LAY MINISTERS

Anne Dearington	Cheryl Gedraitis	Marilyn Welz
Kellie Deming	Tim Hadd	Dave Willsie
Dan Derdowski	Connie Kaczynski	Karen Willsie

PRAYER LINE

Mary Jane.....(989) 513-5137 vicmaryj@hotmail.com
 Sisters of St. Clare srsclare.com/prayer

BEFRIENDER

Mary Ellyn Gushow662-6745

COMMUNION FOR HOMEBOUND

Pam Graul-Gwizdala513-3027

**SCHOOL ENDOWMENT
 SPREADING THE SPIRIT FUND**

School Principal662-6431

MASSES

Saturday 4:30 PM Wednesday 8:00 AM (Not July)
 Sunday 9:30 AM Thursday 8:00 AM (Not July)

WORD & COMMUNION SERVICE

Tuesday 8:00 AM (Labor Day through Memorial Day)

NEW PARISHIONERS

Contact Parish Office for appointment to register.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Celebrated the 2nd weekend each month. Must be active, registered member of parish family. Contact the Parish Office.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Arrangements should be made by contacting Parish Office at least six months in advance. Must be active, registered member of parish family.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Notify Parish Office of parishioners experiencing serious illness, injury, or hospitalization. Communal Anointing of the Sick is celebrated annually in the Fall.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Available 1st Saturday each month at **11:00 AM** in the Sacristy at St. Gabriel Parish **or call Parish Office for appointment.**

AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

114 W. Midland Rd., Auburn, MI 48611

Ph.: 662-6431 Fax: 662-3391 www.auburnacschool.org
 Clark Switalski, Principal cswitalski@auburnac.org
 Chris Kaczynski, Secretary ckaczynski@auburnac.org

WEATHER POLICY

If Bay City Public Schools close due to inclement weather, daytime (8:00 AM – 4:00 PM), parish activities are canceled. Cancellation of evening activities will be announced by 3:00 PM. Closures will be posted on TV: NBC 25, ABC 12, CBS 5.

WEEK OF MARCH 16, 2020

MONDAY

237: 2 Kgs 5:1-15b Pss 42:2-3; 43:3-4 Lk 4:24-30

TUESDAY 8:00 am - Word and Communion

238: Dn 3:25, 34-43 Ps 25:4-5ab, 6-7bc, 8-9 Mt 18:21-35

WEDNESDAY 7:00 p.m. - Mass

239: Dt 4:1, 5-9 Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20 Mt 5:17-19

THURSDAY 8:00 a.m. - Mass

543: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16 Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29 Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22 Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a

FRIDAY Youth Stations of the Cross

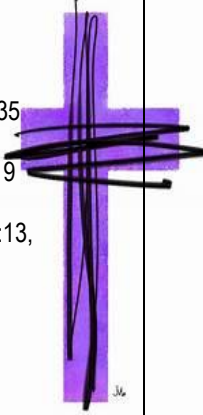
241: Hos 14:2-10 Ps 81:6c-11b, 14, 17 Mk 12:28-34

SATURDAY 4:30 p.m. - Mass

242: Hos 6:1-6 Ps 51:3-4, 18-21b Lk 18:9-14

SUNDAY 9:30 a.m. - Mass

31:1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a Ps 23:1-6 Eph 5:8-14 Jn 9:1-41

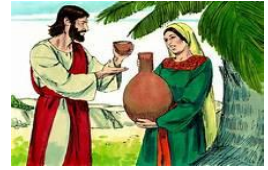


EDUCATION / FORMATION

Family Talk Time Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families, Sara McGinnis Lee
The Notion of thirst in today's Gospel moves from the physical to the spiritual. We hear that Jesus' offer of living water will quench a spiritual thirst. What is living water?

Reflecting on the Word:

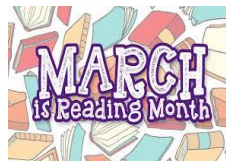
In today's Gospel Jesus approaches the Samaritan woman first. This is a story of conversion: God holds out a hand of friendship that we might learn to seek his grace. Our reward for reaching out in return is tremendous: living water, water to wash away sin and death, to share in the divine life. God relentlessly pursues his people, at every time and every place. How has God pursued a relationship with you? How do you respond to his call?



Living the Word:

This week learn more about the efforts of Catholic Relief Services (CRS.org) which provide clean water to people around the world. Discuss how your family accesses clean water for drinking, cooking, and cleaning, and contrast it with the situations of others living in poverty or war-torn areas. Consider doing one of the family activities at <http://education.crs.org/resources/families> Pray that all people worldwide might have access to clean water.

AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



March is reading month! The students have a goal of 1,000 points in our Accelerated Reading Program. Students read a book and then take a test on that book. They receive points for each book based on difficulty and how many answers they get correct on the test. The goal is to motivate students to read and to retain the information. If the students are able reach the goal of 1,000 points, we will have an "out of this world" treat for them in celebration of their success!

The Gospel this week talks about how Jesus will offer salvation to those who believe and live a virtuous life. He offers the Samaritan woman a chance to be a part of Salvation history and she accepts. Jesus wants everyone to be saved and he works tirelessly to help as many as he can see God's works throughout his life. Now, it is our job to show Jesus's works through our words and actions and help when we can.

✠ God Bless, Clark Switalski, Principal

Maintenance position opening!

We are still looking to hire a Maintenance person for the St. Anthony site. This is a part-time position (8-10 hours per week). Person must be a well-organized and able to maintain the building, as well as the grounds. Have the ability to do some minor repairs as needed to equipment and do simple plumbing & electrical fixes. Also setting up and breaking down for funeral luncheons when needed. Please stop by the Parish Office for a complete job description.



PARISH ACTIVITIES

Mon. March 16	6:30-8 pm	Choir Practice
Tues. March 17	Happy St Patrick Day!	
	10 am	Scripture Study-(PC)
	6:30 pm	RCIA-(PC)
Wed. March 18	10 am	Knitting Club
	7 pm	Soup Supper
Thurs. March 19	6:30 pm	Youth RCIA-(RB)
	6 pm	PTO Meeting
	7 pm	School Committee
Fri. March 20	½ Day of School	
	7 pm	Youth Stations of the Cross
Sun. March 22	9:30 am	Nursery and CLOW
	10:45 am	Religious Ed

STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Target: \$10,962 Offering: \$9,371.20

Children Good Deeds

- ...Helping my little sister get her things...
- ...Help fold laundry...Cleaning up toys...Vacuum...
- ...Cleaning the toy room...Fold and put away the laundry...
- ...Brushing my teeth without having a fit...
- ...Eating all, of my dinner...



Liturgy Corner Rev. Robert E. Brassard

Do You know why we respond to the preface by singing "Holy, Holy, Holy" ? Originally the beginning of this exclamation came from the Jewish synagogue service. The text is inspired by the vision of Isaiah (6:2-3). In the east, through the influence of Jewish-Christians, it made its way into our liturgy. By the fifth century it had become part of the liturgy throughout both the east and the west. Later, in the sixth century, there was an addition made of the words that the people used to greet Christ when he entered Jerusalem just prior to his death ("Blessed is he..."). This combined acclamation was sung by the entire assembly until the Middle Ages when it was assigned to the choir. The choral renditions became so long and complicated that the priest would simply continue with the Eucharistic Prayer as the choir sang on. Today the "Holy, Holy, Holy" has been restored to its proper place as an acclamation sung by the entire assembly. In this acclamation the assembly responds to the presider's invitation to join all creation in giving praise to the Father through Christ. With one voice we join the communion of saints in giving glory to God

Reminder... The Catholic Relief Services Collection will take place next week-end March 21st and 22nd. There are envelopes on the table by the front entrance to church. **Thank-you in advance for your generosity!**





**FROM
FR. TOM'S
DESK**

Third Sunday in Lent

Patricia Sanchez *Celebration*

For the next three weeks, the Scriptural texts set forth for the edification of the assembly will put us in touch with three of the most significant symbols of our faith, viz., water, light and life. As we prepare for the central feast of the liturgical year and as baptismal candidates the world over explore the mystery of Jesus' dying and rising, our reflections on water, light and life will confront us with that mystery and the manner in which it must continue to impact a thirsty, darkened and dying world. These lessons will shape our lives and, through us, extend the hope and peace of the good news to others. These life lessons will come to us, not in the eloquent and reasoned rhetoric of great orators or through the persuasive passion of seasoned prophets, but through three rather unlikely teachers, viz., a disreputable woman (John 4, today), a blind man (John 9, next week), and one who has been dead and buried for four days (John 11, two Sundays from today). In keeping with the divine penchant for using the least likely people to teach the most important life lessons, Jesus has chosen ordinary sinners like ourselves to remind us of the blessings that are ours.

First among those life lessons is the blessing of baptism. Through the symbol of water, as well as the experience of our thirsty forebears in the wilderness (first reading Exodus) and the encounter of the Samaritan woman with Jesus at the well (gospel), we learn that by virtue of our baptismal washing, we begin to share in the very life of God. Just as the lives of the Israelites were sustained by the water that flowed from the rock, so are the believers sustained by the waters of their baptism. However, whereas the gift of water in the wilderness satisfied the physical needs of Moses and company, the waters of baptism support and sustain the spiritual appetites and desires of believers. In today's gospel, this truth is beautifully and poignantly affirmed.

Notice that it was her physical needs that brought the woman to draw water at the Shechem well, but she would go home from that water source with more than a bucket of water for drinking, cooking and washing. Indeed, she go on her way spiritually nourished, purified and renewed by her exchange with Jesus.

Journey as Process: (Exodus 2 and 3)

Celebration

The desert was a testing ground where people faced the question of whether or not they could learn to trust God and God's providence. In the process, the people tested God, demanding that God act on their terms to prove that they had not been abandoned or duped in their acceptance of the offer of freedom. Their grumbling about thirst expressed a murmuring doubt about God's care. It was a lack of faith as much as a need for hydration. Moses understood that and rather than send out scouts looking for wadis or wells he turned to God, being sure to mention that the dearth of water was about to have disastrous consequences for himself.

Using his staff, the symbol of his vocation as a shepherd of the people, Moses struck the rock where God promised to be present. From that very place water flowed and God saved the frightened people. God the thirst-quencher passed this round of testing with flying colors. The people however were still in process.

Justified by Faith: (Romans 5)

Celebration

One way to understand justification is through considering its effects. Paul tells us that justification gives us peace with God, access to grace and a sure hope because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts. Justification, it turns out, was exactly what the Samaritan woman experienced in her encounter with Jesus. His grace, symbolized by living water, was poured into her heart and flowed over into apostleship. Paul says the same of the patriarch Abraham: He was justified by faith. In other words, Abraham's faith in God's promise made him "righteous," putting him in the right relationship with God. It also made him fearless. From there, nothing was impossible That was a lesson Abraham's descendants forgot as they wandered from Egypt to the promised land.

Justification by faith begins with and depends completely on our receptivity to and our willing dependence on God. Rewording Micah we might say "This is what God requires, only this, that you be open to God's great love." Accepting God's offer of love is what justifies us. It is also what will inspire and spur us to every sort of mercy in relation to others as well as to ourselves. With nothing to prove we will have nothing to fear.

Water, water everywhere: (John 4)

Grace Works

The guiding metaphor here is water, a core symbol in the gospel of John. In almost every chapter of this gospel we hear trickling of water across the pages of the story—a baptizer's water, water turned into wine, a new birth that is both water and spirit, a healing pool replaced by a healing Messiah, a true food and drink in the person of Jesus, a storm at sea settled at the command of Jesus, a debate with Jewish leaders over the identity of Jesus as the true "living water," a few drops of spit on the eye of a blind man, a basin of water washing disciples' feet, a stream of water and blood pouring from the side of the crucified Lord. Like a fountain gurgling in the background, John uses the image of water throughout his telling of the story of Jesus.

Lord, satisfy my thirst for meaning

Changes:

The new bishop has introduced several changes to the annual Catholic Services Appeal (CSA). First, there is a name change, i.e., Christ Mission Appeal (CMA). Second, it cannot take place during Lent (which we have done for several years). And lastly, he announced an overall increase of 5% (there has not been an increase for several years).

Following this directive, we will have our CMA drive commence the weekend of May 2nd & 3rd.



First Fridays with Bishop Gruss



Bishop Gruss is offering Mass on the first Friday of the month at 11 am at the Cathedral in Saginaw. Following mass there is a Meatless luncheon for \$7 and Informal Presentation by the Bishop. *All are Welcome to attend!*
Remaining Dates: April 3rd, May 1st & June 5th

LENTEN FISH FRY

Auburn K of C will be having a Fish Fry and Bake Sale on March 20th from 2:30-7pm This is a take-out only dinner but take outs can be eaten on site, no buffet Take-outs cost \$10.00 and desserts may be purchased separately.



ALL ARE WELCOME!

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY UPDATE: Retakes will be available!!

We have finally been able to arrange for a local photographer to set aside some time at the end of March to take photos of anyone who DID NOT get them taken during the original photo sessions. The time frame for these sessions will be **Friday March 27th, from 5-8pm and Saturday March 28th from 9am-noon.** You will need to set up an appointment day & time by calling the Parish Office at (989) 662-6861.

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St. Anthony Cemetery
4485 S. Eleven Mile Rd., Auburn

COLUMBARIUM	Parishioner	Non-Parishioner
Single (1 Urn)	\$1,000	\$1,500
Double (2 Urns)	\$1,400	\$1,750
Inurnment	\$ 250 per niche	\$ 300 per niche
CEMETERY	Parishioner	Non-Parishioner
Plot	\$ 500	\$1,200
Burial	\$ 650	\$ 850
Burial of Cremains	\$ 150	\$ 175
Saturday Burial	\$ 200 additional	\$ 200 additional
Foundation	\$ 0.40 per sq. inch	\$ 0.40 per sq. inch

Contact St. Gabriel Parish Office at 989-662-6861

Prices Effective July 1, 2019

Parish Council Meeting Minutes
February 13, 2020

Attendance: Fr Tom, Bob Huskins, Renee Krager, Sue LeVassuer, Kim Grant, Deb Lupo, Janet Woronoff, Sascha Rivet, Keith Charbonneau, Marty Spencer, Clark Switalski, Tim Hadd, Sandy DesJardins, Teresa Finner, Nate Pfenniger

Review of Minutes: Corrections: Worship - replace “masses” with “services.” Administration: replace “new classroom” with “Annex.” Motion to approve as corrected by Bob Huskins and seconded by Marty Spencer.

New/Old Business

*Soup Suppers - Soup Supper Guidelines 2020 was reviewed among the commissions. Commission members need not to arrive before 5:30. Leslie Clare will be in charge of set up. Dates as follows: March 4th, March 11th, March 18th, March 25th and April 1st. With Spring Break that week of April 1st, some members will be out of town.

COMMISSION REPORTS :

Education/Formation – Sasha Rivet

*Faith and Family Night - April 28th.

*Grandparent’s Mass – April 24th.

*A donation of \$10K was given to the school. \$5K will go to Spreading the Spirit endowment and \$5K will be discussed among the teachers.

*A Penny War was held during Catholic Schools Week and \$745 was raised.

*Count Day was yesterday with 79 K-5.

*Practice for Ash Wednesday, February 24th

*Harbor Lights will be taking pictures in the classroom and at Mass for the year book.

*NWEA testing is February 14th.

*Open House went very well with good reviews.

*Eagle Palooza went very well.

*Looking at securing the building on Sundays after mass for Religious Ed. Entrance doors should be locked.

*Mardi Gras celebration next weekend

*Sacramental Prep sessions have begun for Confirmation and First Eucharist.

*Thirteen youths and three adults have signed up for the Mission Trip in July.

*Some youths will be asked to lead Stations of the Cross during Lent.

*Bulk mailing will go out on Monday.

Worship – Teresa Finner

*Discussed plans for Lent. Ash Wednesday 9:00 am service and 7:00pm.

*Worship Commission has Soup Supper March 11th.

*Penance – Will have two services – Wednesday, March 25th at 7:00pm and Sunday, March 28th at 1:00pm.

Discussed of handing out a small prayer card with something printed on the front saying,

“The Owner of this card must do one good deed for another” and then on the back about forgiveness and kindness. Clark can show Teresa some printing ideas that can be done at a lower cost.

Administration Commission – Bob Huskins

*Next Monday the installation of the new windows will begin. Will take several days.

*Mark LeVassuer is working on the gym tile at the west campus. Mark has new epoxy that he will put down near the door and changed some of the thresholds due to leaks. Same thing will be looked at the east campus.

*New furnace thermostat had to be installed at the east campus. Looking at a procedure for power surges which caused some of the issues with the thermostat. Deb Lupo will check with Consumers Energy.

*New backup pump is in. While this was being done, they found issues with the urinals leaking. Parts have been ordered.

*Mark will do the door sealers when the weather is warmer.

*The last classroom door will be scheduled during Easter break.

*Study was done regarding the security system that we have had a lot problems with. Had a walk through with one company but four for the meeting due to miscommunication. The four companies were; Security,

Guardian, Veteran Alarm and Summit. Might have to replace the phone system also. Still researching. No prices received yet.

*Looking at a broadband church microphone system due to the sale of frequencies by Federal Government. The frequency that Fr Tom is using will no longer be available in June. Need to find new equipment.

*Reviewed the Financial Report. In January had an income of \$100K versus a projected amount of \$88K. This was due in part to a couple of items for donations and bequests. These were higher than normal due to the \$10k donation to the school and the fundraising income from the Eagle Palooza which came in at another \$10K.

Under expenses the areas out of the normal range were land improvement, building improvement and furnishings and equipment. Expenses were \$94K versus \$87K projected. The school reflected the same in donations and the fundraising with \$51K income versus \$33K in expenses. \$44K in expenses versus \$40K projected. They have a \$7,500 surplus. Very good month. Note: with the income over the expenses, we have to realize that some of this is designated for a particular purpose and not really going into the operating budget. For example, the \$10k is going to Spreading the Spirit and will help families with tuition if needed.

*CSA – received another \$1,600. We might have reached the \$10K rebate. Still have \$2K out. The drive unofficially ends the end of March. Budgeted \$5k surplus but we are over that currently. 2020 CSA figures have not been received.

*Eagle Palooza will come in the range of \$20K. Last year was \$17K. The Portable Unit (Annex) has been completely paid for.

Christian Service Commission – Renee Krager

*Discussed Easter Vigil April 11th.

*Discussed Helping Hands again. Not very many calls. Will put info in the bulletin what Helping Hands is all about.

*Went over ideas for Mother and Father's Day gifts.

*Commission has Soup Supper March 4th

Staff – Fr Tom

*Discussed the popularity of the Communal Penance Service and as a test will have two services.

*A lot of things have come to their life expectancy. Things are built only to last for so long. The doors in the school, phone system, need new server, security systems, parking lot, etc. The parking lot has a lot of cracks. Signed a contract to replace the asphalt. When they dug a little test spot, cement was found underneath.

Recommended that you shouldn't pour asphalt over cement. Do this job correctly and dig all the cement out the could would be around \$100K

*Working on a resolution with the key issues at the west campus. The gym is used by the school and is open to the community. Western uses the gym before their football games and other activities. A donation of \$500 was received from the football team. The Bay City YMCA and Community Center from Midland have also used our facility. The question is do we need to start charging. Might have to have a policy with a cost. Not every group is treating it well. With all the keys "out" it is hard to know which groups are abusing the facility or even who is using it.

*New server is needed for the school and office, could cost around \$18K.

Upcoming Events:

School Mass – February 14th

Bulk Mailing – February 17th

Windows installed at Church – February 17th & 18th

Ash Wednesday – February 26th, Mass at 9:00am and 7:00pm

Stations of the Cross – February 28th and March 6th, 7:00pm

Inscription Sunday – March 1st, 9:30am

Soup Supper – March 4th, 6:00pm and Mass at 7:00pm

Next Meeting: March 12th – 7:30pm

Prayer led by: Administration Commission

Motion to Adjourn by Tim Hadd and seconded by Marty Spencer

